

REMARKS

I. Claim Amendments

Applicants amended several claims. The amendments do not introduce new matter insofar as they are supported by the specification, including the original claims, considered as a whole.

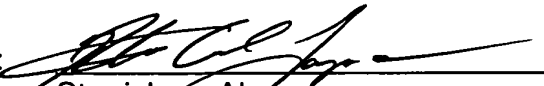
II. Request for Allowance

Applicants request an indication of allowance of all claims. If the Examiner is of the opinion that any of the claims are not patentable, Applicants would appreciate the courtesy of a telephone call to the undersigned counsel to resolve such issues in an expeditious manner.

Authorization is hereby granted to charge or credit the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0206 for any fees or overpayments related to the entry of this Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

HUNTON & WILLIAMS LLP

By: 
Stanislaus Akerman
Registration No 28,562

and

Robert C. Lampe, III
Registration No. 51,514

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Hunton & Williams LLP
Intellectual Property Department
1900 K Street, N.W.
Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20006-1109
(202) 955-1500 (telephone)
(202) 778-2201 (facsimile)

SA/RCL:sac